

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3666

ANSWERED ON:03.09.2012

ROAD SAFETY

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Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the road accident deaths in India are highest as compared to other countries;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government has constituted a Committee on Road Safety and Traffic Management and if so, the details and objectives thereof along with the composition of the Committee;
- (d) whether the Government has started a scheme to provide road safety funds to the States;
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the funds allocated to various States under the said scheme during the last three years and the current year, State-wise; and
- (f) the details of other road safety schemes being implemented by the Government in the country and the funds provided to States under these scheme during the said period?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (DR. TUSHAR A. CHAUDHARY)

(a)& (b) Yes Madam. As per the latest issue of 'World Road Statistics' (WRS) 2011, brought out by the International Road Federation, Geneva, India had reported the maximum number of road accident fatalities at 125,660 followed by China at 67,759 and United States of America at 33,808 for the year 2009. The analysis of road accident data received from States/UTs reveals that drivers' fault is the single most important factor responsible for accidents (77.5%). Some of the other factors responsible for road accidents are as under:

Fault of pedestrian	2.4%
Fault of cyclist	1.3%
Defect in road conditions	1.5%
Defect in condition of motor vehicle	1.6%
Weather condition	1.0%
All other causes	14.8%#

Includes Fault of Driver of other vehicles, Fault of Passengers, Poor light condition, Falling of boulders, Neglect of civic bodies, Stray animals, other causes and causes not known.

(c) A Committee was constituted under the Chairmanship of Shri S. Sundar, Former Secretary, Ministry of Surface Transport on 23.11.2005 to deliberate and make recommendations for setting up an effective and dedicated agency for road safety and traffic regulation. The composition of the Committee is at Annexure I. The Terms of Reference given to the Committee were as under:

- i) To assess the magnitude of road traffic injuries and fatalities in India as a public health and economic problem;
- ii) To study international examples of organizations for road safety and traffic regulation with a view to drawing lessons for India;
- iii) To propose a Road Safety Organization at the Central Government level and recommend the functions and responsibilities of the proposed organization;
- iv) To suggest amendment of relevant traffic laws;
- v) To suggest the financing mechanisms for such an organization;
- vi) To suggest measures for rescue and relief of accident victims.

The Chairman of the Committee presented its report on 20.2.2007. The Committee has recommended creation of a National Road Safety and Traffic Management Board through an Act of Parliament.

(d) No Madam.

(e) Does not arise in view of (d) above.

(f) The details of important schemes run by Ministry of Road Transport and Highways to promote road safety and the funds provided to States under these scheme are as follows:-

(i) Publicity Measures and Awareness Campaign on Road Safety: With a view to raise road safety awareness among the public, the Government undertakes various publicity measures in the form of telecast/broadcast of T.V. spots/Radio jingles; organizing Road Safety Week, Seminars, Exhibitions, All India Essay Competition on Road Safety; printing of posters, calendars, children activity books etc., containing road safety messages for various segments of road users viz. pedestrians, cyclists, school children, heavy vehicle drivers etc. Funds are not provided to States/UTs under this scheme.

(ii) Refresher Training of drivers in Unorganised Sector and Human Resource Development:- Financial assistance is being given to States/ UTs for setting up of Model driving training schools to produce good drivers. In addition, refresher training to on the job drivers in unorganised sector is also given through a few reputed Organisations. The details of funds provided to States under this scheme during the last three years and current year is at Annexure II.

(iii) National Highway Accident Relief Service Scheme (NHARSS): The scheme entails providing cranes and ambulances to States/ UTs for relief and rescue measures in the aftermath of accidents by evacuating road accident victims to nearest medical aid centre and for clearing the accident site. Funds are not provided to States/UTs under this scheme.

(iv) Road Safety and Pollution Testing Equipments and Programme Implementation: Road Safety equipments like Interceptor are provided to States/ UTs for enforcement and implementation of various rules & regulations relating to road safety. Funds are not provided to States/UTs under this scheme.